



Strasbourg, 15 September 2026

CDCJ-BU(2026)OJ2 ANN prov
English only
Updated 29/09/2026

125th meeting of the Bureau of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ-BU)

6-7 October 2026

Council of Europe Office in Paris, 55 avenue Kléber, Room 1 and online

Draft annotated agenda

- 1. Opening of the meeting**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business**

Working documents

- Draft Agenda
CDCJ-BU(2026)OJ2 prov
- Draft annotated agenda
CDCJ-BU(2026)OJ2 ANN prov

The Bureau is invited to adopt the agenda and the order of business.
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- 3. Information by the chair, bureau members and secretariat**

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information provided by the chair, bureau members and the secretariat about recent developments that have occurred since the last CDCJ plenary meeting (2-4 June 2026) and any implications they may have on CDCJ activities.

- 4. Review of progress**

- a. Stocktaking: implementation of CDCJ activities for 2026-2027
[CDCJ\(2026\)01 rev2](#)
- b. Calendar of meetings, consultations and events for 2026-2027
[CDCJ\(2026\)09 rev2](#)
- c. Future CDCJ activities

Working documents

- Draft proposals for possible future CDCJ activities including draft terms of reference of the CDCJ for 2028-2031
[CDCJ\(2026\)17 prov \(restricted\)](#)

- Draft terms of reference of the CDCJ limited working group on justice and the workload of courts (CDCJ-JUS)
[CDCJ\(2026\)28 prov \(restricted\)](#)

Background documents

- Proposals on possible future CDCJ activities
[CDCJ\(2025\)14 prov4](#)
- Possible promotion and revision of existing instruments prepared by the CDCJ
[CDCJ\(2026\)05 prov2](#)
- Breakout group discussions on future work of the CDCJ – Practical arrangements, methodology and template for structured discussion
[CDCJ\(2026\)14](#)
- Research note: Case law of the European Court of Human Rights concerning the role of notaries for the effective administration of justice
[CDCJ-BU\(2026\)02 rev](#)
- [Complete list of conventions for which the CDCJ has been given responsibility](#)
- [Recommendations, resolutions and guidelines](#)
- CDCJ Terms of reference for 2024-2027 ([revised version](#))

The Bureau is invited:

- to take note of the update by the secretariat on progress made in implementing the CDCJ activities and achieving its deliverables by 31/12/2027, the expiration date of its current terms of office ([CDCJ\(2026\)01 rev2](#));
- to take note of the decision to be made by the Committee of Ministers on 23 September 2026 concerning the CDCJ's requests to add new deliverables to its terms of reference for 2027 and to extend the current terms of reference of the Committee of Experts on Access to Origins (CJ-OR) by one year to 31/12/2027;
- to examine the draft proposals for possible future CDCJ activities including draft terms of reference of the CDCJ for 2028-2031 as they appear in document [CDCJ\(2026\)17 prov \(restricted\)](#), prepared by the secretariat on the basis of the discussion held at the 106th plenary meeting (2-4 June 2026) in the context of the preparation of the next Council of Europe programme and budget (2028-2031), taking into account the preliminary priority order established by the CDCJ and also the recent past or planned legislative developments in member states and also the work in other organisations;
- to consider draft terms of reference for a limited working group of the CDCJ on justice and the workload of courts (CDCJ-JUS) as proposed by the secretariat in document [CDCJ\(2026\)28 prov \(restricted\)](#);
- to provide guidance to the secretariat for the last two documents with a view to their adoption by the CDCJ at its 107th plenary meeting in November.

Justice and the Rule of Law

5. Council of Europe Plan of Action on Strengthening Judicial Independence and Impartiality (Sofia Action Plan) – Focused thematic review of the implementation of selected aspects of the Sofia Action Plan (*main deliverable 10*)

Working documents

- “Strengthening Judicial Independence: Career and Training of Judges” – Draft concept note, including draft programme, for the launch conference of the report of the first thematic review under the Sofia Action Plan (17 November 2026)
[CDCJ\(2026\)04 prov2](#)

- [Report on the thematic review focused on the career and training of judges](#)

Background documents

- Follow up to the thematic review focused on the career and training of judges – Draft concept note and programme for a launch conference
[CDCJ\(2026\)04 prov](#)
- [Report of the CDCJ to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the implementation of the “Sofia Action Plan”](#)

The Bureau is invited:

- to examine the draft concept note and programme of the conference on “Strengthening Judicial Independence: Career and Training of Judges” to be held on 17 November 2026 to launch the report of the first thematic review as a follow-up to the Sofia Action Plan focused on the career and training of judges ([CDCJ\(2026\)04 prov2](#));
- to provide any further guidance to the secretariat for the finalisation of the programme and the organisation of this event.

6. The use of artificial intelligence for policing, the administration of justice and borders/migration – Feasibility study

(main deliverable 11)

Exchange of views with the consultant

Working document

- Draft outline of the feasibility study on the use of artificial intelligence for policing, the administration of justice and borders/migration
[CDCJ\(2026\)18 prov](#)

Background documents

- Concept note concerning the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for policing, the administration of justice and borders/migration and the use of AI or other automated decision-making (ADM) for communication purposes
[CDCJ-ADMIN-AI\(2023\)01](#)
- Note regarding the CDCJ input to the preparation of the draft Council of Europe Framework Convention on artificial intelligence by the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)
[CDCJ\(2023\)13](#)
- Proposals on the directions to be taken by the CDCJ in its future work in the field of artificial intelligence and administrative law
[CDCJ-ADMIN-AI\(2022\)01](#)

The Bureau is invited:

- to take note of the information provided by the secretariat;
- to exchange views with the consultant on the draft outline of the feasibility study on the use of AI for policing, the administration of justice and borders/migration (CDCJ(2026)18 prov);
- to provide the necessary guidance to the consultant to pursue the preparation of the feasibility study with a view to its adoption at the plenary meeting of the CDCJ in November 2027.

The consultant, Dr Sabrina Hammoudi, will attend the meeting online to assist the Bureau as necessary.

Public Law

7. Statelessness and access to nationality

(main deliverable 7 and main task xi)

Working documents

- Draft revised recommendation on the nationality of children
[CDCJ-MIG\(2026\)02 final / CDCJ\(2026\)19 prov](#) (restricted)
- Draft revised explanatory memorandum to the draft revised recommendation on the nationality of children
[CDCJ-MIG\(2026\)03 final / CDCJ\(2026\)20 prov](#) (restricted)
- Draft checklist for policy makers
[CDCJ-MIG\(2026\)05 final / CDCJ\(2026\)21 prov](#) (restricted)
- Compilation of comments from the CDCJ, CDCJ-MIG and Youth stakeholders
[CDCJ\(2026\)22 rev](#) (original language - restricted)
- List of decisions of the 6th meeting of the CDCJ limited Working Group on Migration – CDCJ-MIG (22-23 September 2026, online)
CDCJ-MIG(2026)PV2

The Bureau is invited:

- to examine, in the light of the comments received from the CDCJ, CDCJ-MIG and Youth stakeholders ([CDCJ\(2026\)22 rev](#) - restricted), the draft revised recommendation on the nationality of children and its draft revised explanatory memorandum as well as the draft checklist for policy makers (CDCJ(2026)19 prov, CDCJ(2026)20 prov and CDCJ(2026)21 prov (restricted) respectively);
- to provide the necessary guidance to the consultant for finalising these draft texts before circulation to the CDCJ for an examination at its plenary meeting in November with view to the approval of the draft revised recommendation, prior to its transmission to the Committee of Ministers, and adoption of the draft revised explanatory memorandum and checklists;
- to take note of the list of decisions of the 6th meeting of the CDCJ-MIG (22-23 September 2026) (CDCJ-MIG(2026)PV2).

The consultant, Professor René De Groot, will attend the meeting online to assist the Bureau as necessary.

Family law and children's rights

8. Rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins *(main deliverable 8 and main task xi)*

Working documents

- Draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins
[CJ-OR\(2025\)10 prov5](#) (restricted)
- Draft explanatory memorandum to the draft recommendation
CJ-OR(2026)03 prov (restricted)

Background documents

- Composition of the Committee of Experts on access to origins (CJ-OR) responsible for the preparation of a draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins
[CJ-OR\(2025\)INF01 rev](#)

- CJ-OR Terms of Reference for 2025-2027 (revised version)
CJ-OR(2025)01 rev2
- Workplan and calendar of CJ-OR activities for 2025-2027
CJ-OR(2025)02 rev2
- Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins
[CJ-OR\(2025\)03 rev](#)
- Overview of European and international standards concerning the rights of donor conceived persons to know their origins
[CJ-OR\(2025\)05](#)
- [Comparative study on access of persons conceived by gamete donation to information on their origins](#)

The Bureau is invited:

- to examine the draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins and its draft explanatory memorandum (respectively CJ-OR(2025)10 prov5 and CJ-OR(2026)03 prov – *restricted*);
- to provide guidance on the draft texts to the CJ-OR in view of its meeting of 27-29 October, before examination by the plenary in November.

The Chair of the CJ-OR, Thomas Knoll-Biermann (Germany) and the consultant, Laurence Brunet, will attend the meeting online to assist the Bureau as necessary.

9. **Thematic review of the guidelines on child-friendly justice (focus: civil and administrative proceedings)** (*main deliverable 9*)

Working documents

- Thematic Review of the Guidelines on Child-Friendly Justice - Draft Report (gap analysis)
CDENF(2026)06 rev
- Compilation of comments received from CDCJ, CDENF and CDPC members on the draft report (gap analysis) on the thematic review of the Guidelines on Child-Friendly Justice
CDENF(2026)13 (*original language – restricted*)

Background documents

- Thematic Review of the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on child-friendly justice: Gap Analysis Report – Draft prepared by Susanna Greijer and Andriana Kostopoulou, independent consultants
[CDENF\(2026\)06](#)
- Compilation of comments received from CDCJ members on the draft report
[CDCJ\(2025\)16 rev](#) (*original language – restricted*)
- Note of the CDCJ secretariat on identified civil and administrative matters in the draft report on the review of criminal, civil and administrative law aspects of the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on Child-Friendly Justice
[CDCJ\(2025\)10](#)
- Draft report on the review of criminal, civil and administrative law aspects of the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on Child-Friendly Justice
[CDENF\(2025\)03rev1 Full](#)

including:

- [part \(1\)](#) - analysis and rationale of the revisions proposed
- [part \(2\)](#) - drafting proposals to amend the guidelines
- [part \(3\)](#) - drafting proposals to amend the explanatory memorandum

- [Table of replies received following the CDENF consultation process \(original language\)](#)

The Bureau is invited:

- to take note of the information provided by the secretariat on the outcome of the written consultation on the draft report (Gap Analysis) on the thematic review of the Guidelines on Child-Friendly Justice prepared by the CDENF consultants;
- to examine the revised draft Gap Analysis Report proposed by the Secretariats of the CDENF, CDCJ and CDPC (CDENF(2026)06 rev) in light of the comments received from the members of these committees;
- to provide guidance on the revisions proposed before examination by the plenary in November with a view to adopting the draft report at a joint session of the three steering committees during the CDENF Plenary meeting to be held on 25-27 November 2026.

10. State of play of the implementation of selected conventions and/or recommendations falling under the CDCJ's responsibility, including proposals for follow-up deliverables, and awareness-raising activities in other international and global fora where relevant (*main deliverable 12 and main tasks v, xiv and xviii*)

Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer Treaty Office (CETS No. 226) – follow-up

Working document

- Promotion of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer [CDCJ\(2025\)03 prov6](#)

Background documents

- [Complete list of conventions for which the CDCJ has been given responsibility](#)
- [Recommendations, resolutions and guidelines](#)

The Bureau is invited:

- to take note of the recent signature by Uzbekistan and ratifications by Algeria and Zimbabwe of the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (ETS No. 127);
- to take note of signatures by Albania, Austria and Spain of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer (CETS No. 226) since the 106th plenary meeting;
- to take note of the update on the promotion of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer provided by the secretariat in document [CDCJ\(2025\)03 prov6](#) and provide information on activities they are aware of that are not reflected in the document;
- to take note of the information provided by the secretariat concerning the availability of translations into national languages of the Luxembourg Convention received from CDCJ members and to be made available on the [Treaty Office's website](#).

- 11. Provide input to the Committee of Ministers in view of the regular, high-level dialogue with member States and partners on delivering on the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy (*main task xiii*) and contribute, where relevant, to the process towards a New Democratic Pact for Europe (*main task ii*)**

Working document

- Strategic input of the CDCJ to the Reykjavík principles for Democracy and the New Democratic Pact
[CDCJ\(2026\)06 prov2](#)

Background documents

- [Reykjavik Principles for Democracy](#)
- [2026 Report of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe “The New Democratic Pact for Europe in times of rupture”](#)
- [2025 Report of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe “Towards a new democratic pact for Europe”](#)

The Bureau is invited to take note of the update provided by the secretariat on the Strategic input of the CDCJ to the Reykjavík principles for Democracy and the New Democratic Pact ([CDCJ\(2026\)06 prov2](#)), and to provide guidance as appropriate to the CDCJ. This document will be examined and finalised with a view to its adoption at the CDCJ plenary meeting in November.

- 12. Developments in member states in the area of public law**

Working document

- Information collected
[CDCJ\(2026\)23](#) (*original language*)

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information collected from several member States on developments in their legislation in the area of public law (CDCJ(2026)23).

- 13. Exchange of views**

Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell, President of the European Law Institute (ELI)

The Bureau is invited to exchange views online with the President of the European Law Institute (ELI), Teresa Rodríguez de las Heras Ballell, and Secretary General Vanessa Wilcox, on 7 October (from 13:30 to 14:00), to explore possibilities for closer co-operation and dialogue between ELI and the CDCJ. This will give ELI an opportunity to present their activities, learn more about the CDCJ's current priorities, and discuss potential avenues for future collaboration in support of shared objectives relating to the rule of law, enhancing access to justice, and examining the legal implications of digitalization and artificial intelligence (AI).

By way of example, the 2026 ELI Annual Conference, which is to take place early September 2026, will examine and discuss with leading experts, including judges, legal practitioners, academics, and policymakers, the most pressing legal challenges in Europe: the Bureau member and Chair of the former Committee of Experts on the Protection of Lawyers (CJ-AV), Christoph Henrich (Germany), and the President of the Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE), Judge Matos (Portugal), will participate in this event.

14. Preparation of the next plenary meeting

Working document

- 107th plenary meeting (17-19 November 2026) – Preliminary draft agenda
[CDCJ\(2026\)OJ2 prov](#)

The Bureau is invited to examine and agree on the proposed preliminary draft agenda of the 107th plenary meeting of the CDCJ (17-19 November 2026) ([CDCJ\(2026\)OJ2 prov](#)).

15. CDCJ Opinions (if any) (main deliverable 13)

If need be, the CDCJ Bureau will be invited to provide appropriate guidance in respect of possible comments on adopted texts that the Committee of Ministers transmitted to the CDCJ for opinion.

16. Any other business

The Bureau is invited to raise any other issues as necessary.

17. Dates and place of next meetings

The Bureau is invited to take note of the updated calendar of its meetings, consultations and events for 2026-2027 proposed in CDCJ(2026)09 rev2, to be approved by the CDCJ in November.

18. Adoption of the meeting report

The Bureau is invited to adopt the report of its meeting (CDCJ-BU(2026)04).

DRAFT ORDER OF BUSINESS

Date	Timetable CET	Agenda items
06/10/2026	9:30 – 10:30	1. Opening of the meeting
		2. Adoption of Agenda and Order of Business
		3. Information chair, bureau members and secretariat
		4.a Stocktaking 4.b Calendar of meetings
	10:30 – 10:45	Coffee-break
	10:45 – 12:15	4.c Future CDCJ activities
	12:15 – 13:30	Lunch break
	13:30 – 15.30	10. Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer
		5. Sofia Action Plan
		6. AI - Feasibility study

07/10/2026	15:30 – 15:45	Coffee-break
	15:45 – 17:00	8. Access to Origins
	9:30 – 10:45	7. Stateless children
		9. CFJ Guidelines Thematic review
	10:45 – 11:00	Coffee-break
	11:00 – 12:00	9. CFJ Guidelines Thematic review (continued)
		11. Reykjavik and New Democratic Pact
	12:00 – 13:30	Lunch break
	13:30 – 14:00	13. Exchange of views with the President of the European Law Institute (ELI)
	14:00 – 15:00	12. Developments in public law
		14. Preparation of the next plenary meeting
		15. CDCJ Opinions
		16. Any other business
		17. Next meetings
		18. Meeting Report

WORKING DOCUMENTS

Working documents are made available on the CDCJ restricted website

www.coe.int/cdcj

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Terms of Reference	CDCJ Terms of reference for 2024-2027 (revised)
Terms of Reference	CDCJ-MIG – CDCJ limited working group on migration – Terms of reference for 2024-2026
Terms of Reference	CJ-OR – Committee of Experts on access to origins – Terms of reference for 2025-2026
CM/Res(2021)3-consolidated	Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods (Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 12 May 2021 at the 1404th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies and amended by Resolution CM/Res(2025)2 on 3 July 2025 at the 1533rd meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)
CDCJ(2026)02	Working methods of CDCJ (as revised and adopted by the CDCJ on 3 June 2026)
CDCJ-BU(2021)15 final	Checklist for assessment of gender equality aspects and impact
CDCJ(2022)20	Criteria to assess requests for observer status with the CDCJ and its subordinate bodies and decision-making processes

CDCJ MEETING REPORTS

20-21 March 2025	Bureau: 122nd meeting	CDCJ-BU(2025)02 restricted Report
16-18 June 2025	104th plenary meeting	CDCJ(2025)13 Report
25-26 September 2025	Bureau: 123rd meeting	CDCJ-BU(2025)03 Report
18-20 November 2025	105th plenary meeting	CDCJ(2025)24 Report
12-13 March 2026	Bureau: 124th meeting	CDCJ-BU(2026)03 Report
2-4 June 2026	106th plenary meeting	CDCJ(2026)16 Report

MEETING REPORTS OF CDCJ SUBORDINATE BODIES

23-25 April 2025	CDCJ-MIG: 3rd meeting	Decisions
3-5 June 2025	CJ-OR: 1st meeting	Report
29 September – 1 October 2025	CDCJ-MIG: 4th meeting	Decisions
28-30 October 2025	CJ-OR: 2nd meeting	Report
23-24 February 2026	CDCJ-MIG: 5th meeting	Decisions
24-26 March 2026	CJ-OR: 3rd meeting	Report
22-23 September 2026	CDCJ-MIG: 6th meeting	Report

RECENT CDCJ PUBLICATION

August 2026	Follow-up to the Council of Europe Plan of Action on strengthening judicial independence and impartiality (Sofia Action Plan) - Thematic review focused on the career and training of judges	Report
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